

Holiday weekend means big bucks for stores

By Amer Imsic
Staff Reporter

Black Friday. Cyber Monday. Local Saturday. Holiday shopping events that encourage shopping, but for different reasons.

Black Friday is a discount shopping event that starts late Thanksgiving day and runs through Sunday.

According to the National Retail Federation, in 2012 “a record 247 million shoppers visited stores and websites over Black Friday weekend.” This year, they expect an increase of 3.9 percent in sales, totaling to an estimated \$602.1 billion spent by consumers.

Cyber Monday is on the first Monday after Thanksgiving and is similar to Black Friday but is an online, one-day event.

Cyber Monday offers shoppers discounts, but they’re online so you don’t need to go visit the stores you want to shop at.

see Holiday, page 11

Dumped on the street

Highline alum Robert Hale was abandoned by his foster parents at age 18 – now he wants to do something about it

By Erika Wigren
Staff Reporter

Imagine walking on stage at your high school graduation, hearing your name being called, and then only hearing silence because no one is there to congratulate you.

This is what high school graduation was like for Highline alumnus Robert Hale.



Hale

“I remember standing in the middle of my high school graduation ceremony, watching everyone celebrate with their families and I had no one there for me,” Hale said.

Hale is a former foster child.

A foster child is a kid who is raised by an adult or a family that they are not related to.

This family receives money, support and

aid from the government to care for the child and once that child turns 18, the government no longer provides financial support, Hale said.

In 2012, about 185,000 children were reported to be living in a foster home with a non-related family according to U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Hale graduated from Highline in 2012 with an associate of arts with an emphasis in chemical dependency counseling. Currently, Hale works in real estate and financing.

Hale said that he would like to buy a property close to Highline to house former foster kids as they attend classes on campus.

“Essentially the goal will be to provide a foster child dorm close to Highline because the college has shown a commitment to vocational, technical, and academic programs. Central Washington University also provides a four-year university opportunity,” Hale said. “I would like to have a caretaker at the home to watch over the students and help them along.”

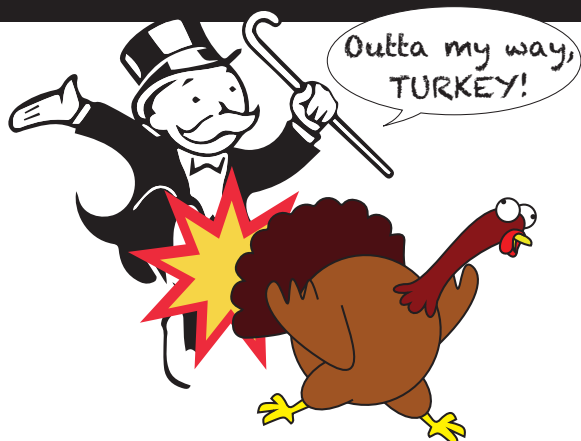
When Hale turned 18, his foster family felt they no longer had an obligation to take care of him any longer.

“They told me, ‘You know we care for

Photo illustration by Rebecca Starkey/THUNDERWORD

see Foster, page 12

STORES OPEN THANKSGIVING DAY



Vinh Banh/THUNDERWORD

Holiday takes back seat to sales

Thunderword Staff

The family may be roasting the turkey on Thursday, but it’s Thanksgiving sentimentality that may be cooked this year.

While many Highline students look forward to enjoying the holiday with their family, the fact that many of their fellow students who work in retail are being mustered to man the registers at major department stores doesn’t phase them.

In the United States, the day following Thanksgiving has become a major shopping day termed Black Friday – the point at which retailers begin to turn a profit.

This year, however, the retail giants are preparing for battle and have decided to open their doors early, on the Thanksgiving Holiday, with some stores, such as K-Mart, opening as early as 6 a.m. that Thursday.

Many Highline students said

that they don’t think companies forcing employees to work on the holiday is that big of a deal.

“It’s fine that employees have to work on Thursday. [Black Friday] is a tradition that has been made by our modern era that we live in,” said student Lorena Sepin.

Another student, Michael Field, said he will not be working during

see Black Friday, page 11

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Campus closure: When it snows, who’s gonna let us know?



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Theater kicks off holiday season with heartwarming comedy



Page 7

Thunderbirds win two games, start season off strong



Car incidents cause variety of problems

Several different types of vehicular incidents occurred over the past week.

A car hit a student walking in the East Parking Lot on Nov. 25 at 10:30 a.m.

It was reported the student was not in a crosswalk and was texting on her phone when she was struck.

The fire department checked her out and reported only bruising.

An act of malicious mischief was reported on Nov. 20 at 12:50 p.m.

A student returned to his vehicle in the North Parking Lot to discover the locking mechanism on his Honda was tampered with and was unable to enter his vehicle.

Two fender benders occurred in the South Parking Lot on Nov. 21 and 22.

On both incidents, the parties exchanged information and there were no need for reports to be filed.

A Security officer observed two vehicles driving recklessly in the North Parking Lot on Nov. 24.

He stopped both vehicles and advised them of their behavior. They said they would follow the rules and he let them leave.

Streak of thefts continue to rise

A student reported the theft of his jeans with his wallet and cellphone, which were in a locker in Building 21 at 5 p.m. on Nov. 20.

A possible attempted theft occurred in the library on Nov. 22 at 10 a.m.

The suspect picked up a laptop but when confronted by the owner he claimed he was going to turn it in to the front desk.

After placing the laptop down he ran out of the library.

Disturbances disrupt the library

A disturbance was reported in the library at 7:40 p.m. on Nov. 20.

A male student was bothering people by being loud and wouldn't calm down. Once Security arrived he decided to leave.

A group of juveniles were reported outside Building 25 at 6 p.m.

A Security officer observed them for a while and reported the group departed in separate ways.

- Compiled by Sam Hong

Students to share problems at Legislative Breakfast

By Sam Hong
Staff Reporter

Highline's Student Government will host its Annual Legislative Breakfast to give legislators an insight into students' experiences at college.

"We want to connect state legislators to students and their real life experiences in the community and technical college system," said La-Tonya Brisbane, a Highline student and the Associated Students of Highline's speaker of the caucuses.

The Annual Legislative Breakfast brings local state representatives and state senators to campus. They will participate in student presentations and roundtable discussions.

The event will be held on Tuesday, Dec. 3 from 7:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. in the Mt. Constance/Olympus room of Building 8 and is open to anyone.

Free breakfast will be provided from 7:30 a.m. to 8 a.m.

When dealing with the state budget, some cuts hap-



Brisbane

pen within the community college and technical college systems.

The programs they cut kill student re-enrollment. They also diminish success by eliminating opportunities for students to succeed, Brisbane said.

"Students qualify [for the State Need Grant] but don't get it," Brisbane said.

She added other topics of discussion will be undocumented students and programs such as the Dream Act.

The Dream Act is a program that would let non-citizen students who graduate from a Washington high school or earn a diploma equivalent to be able to qualify for the State Need Grant.

Students who attend can expect to hear from other students and participate in discussion sessions, which will be closed to faculty and staff.

State Sen. Karen Keiser and State Rep. Tina Orwall,

Democrats from the 33rd District are expected to attend.

State Rep. Steve Bergquist, D-11th District, and State Sen. Joe Fain, R-47th District,

are also planning to attend.

The state Legislature begins its 2014 session the second Monday in January

for a 60-day session, at the state capitol in Olympia.

The short session usually features a supplemental bud-

get to amend the two-year budget passed in 2013.

The supplemental budget usually doesn't result in major changes for state spending

programs.

The budget passed in 2013 was the first in several years that did not result in cuts to state support for higher education, and did not include a tuition increase.

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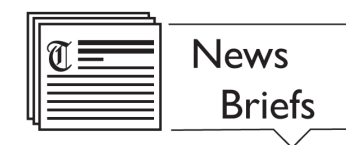
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Event talks ESL student stress

The Inter-Cultural Center is holding its next "Counseling Wisdom Series," co-sponsored by the Counseling Series, on Dec. 4.

This series, titled "Navigating the College as English as a Second Language," is meant to help ESL students navigate college culture and academia and deal with the stress that comes with it, all while trying to learn a new language.

The event will be from noon to 1 p.m. in Building 8, room 204.

Altered classes focus on ESL

A new series of classes are coming next quarter to help multilingual or international students.

The "Multilingual Power Quarter" is a 12-credit course block consisting of English 101, Psychology 120, and College 100.

English 101 will have an additional section of the class made specifically for international students.

Psychology 120, the psychology of human relations, focuses

on interactions with others.

College 100 is an ESL support seminar course.

Students interested in these classes can register for them during their registration time.

Light Rail stations to open months early

Sound Transit is opening its University Light Rail stations six to nine months early.

The two stations as part of this extension are the Capitol Hill station, which will be on Broadway Avenue East and East John Street, and University of Washington Station, which will be near Husky Stadium on Montlake Boulevard and Northeast Pacific Street.

The University rail is now expected to open between January and March of 2016.

Barrels on campus for food drive

The Des Moines Food Bank has placed barrels around campus for the campus community to deposit non-perishable foods.

The barrels are in the first and second floors of Building 8, upstairs and downstairs in Building 6 and the main floors of Building 99 and Building 25.

Items can be deposited until

the barrels are taken away on Dec. 12.

Mix it up and talk to someone new

"Mix-it-up" day is next week.

Students will be asked to talk with others to start conversations that will change their thoughts of other people and cultures.

The event will be on Dec. 2 from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in Building 8's cafeteria.

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When the snow comes down in Highline town, Yok must decide

By Sam Hong
Staff Reporter

Snow lightly dusted the ground on Monday morning as students woke up. By noon snow had fallen harder and a decision was made to close the campus.

The next day students watched the news in anticipation of extending their Thanksgiving break.

Highline still reported a scheduled opening at 9 a.m. but at 7:30 a.m. the status changed to show a closure.

This, however, was too late for some students and faculty who had already started their journey to campus.

This was November 2010 and school was closed for the week.

Looking at next week's forecast, students could return from their Thanksgiving break to some snow.

The National Weather Service is reporting a chance of rain or snow with the snow level near sea level for Monday, Dec. 2.

AccuWeather.com is reporting cloudy with a few snowflakes for Tuesday, Dec. 3 and cold with a wintry mix for Thursday, Dec. 5.

With snow in the forecast, students will be glued to electronic devices in hopes of reported school closures.



File photo/THUNDERWORD

Two years ago it was decided that classes would continue despite the fact that snow was falling.

Students who have subscribed to HCC Text Alerts can also expect to receive a text if school is closed.

If snow, ice or anything not so nice is forecasted, who decides if the campus should be closed?

This is a decision that ultimately belongs to Larry Yok, the vice president of administrative services.

"I decide whether we are going to be open late or closed," said Yok.

He reaches a decision with inputs from other executive members and sends his recommendation to the president of Highline.

However if there are no reasons to close the campus, the president will not be contacted, said Yok.

Yok said he usually has conversations with Jeff Wagnitz, the vice president of academic affairs, if they are considering delayed openings.

Yok said if inclement weather hits Highline he would receive a phone call from the Security supervisor around 3 in the morning.

Richard Noyer, Security supervisor, said his officers will take any assessment of the weather and if the weather is severe they will notify him. If the

snow is sticking, has a coat and seems like it's going to come down for a while, he will call Larry Yok, said Noyer.

Yok will be informed on the conditions of the roads, walkways, electricity and current weather conditions at Highline; then he will coordinate with the facilities director Barry Hollendorf to see if they have enough staff to clear pathways and parking lots, said Yok.

They assess if students can make it to campus.

"If they can get to campus from the immediate area, we'll keep it open," Yok said.

"We try to keep the college

open if it's accessible," added Yok.

But he stressed that if you are in an area that you feel is unsafe to travel, and it could be potentially dangerous to get to class, then you should contact your instructor to find another way to get the information and assignments for the course.

Conditions in surrounding cities do not play into the decision, he said.

"There are so many micro climates in our district. There is no reliable way to get all the information," said Yok.

"Once a decision has been made I'm the one that initiates the plan," Noyer said.

The first thing he does is go onto schoolreport.org and fills out a report, said Noyer.

Schoolreport.org reports any critical information concerning schools to the media: radio, TV stations and newspapers.

He said he also initiates his portion of the emergency phone tree, a contact roster for staff and faculty where department heads will notify the people below them on the roster, which also include the phone operator and the HCC Text Alert System operator.

To ensure you receive time-sensitive information about the college sign up for HCC Text Alerts at hcc textualerts.highline.edu.

Commuters express concern over Metro cuts

By Ryan Johnston
Staff Reporter

People are upset over planned cuts to Metro Transit service.

Metro held an informational meeting on Nov. 20, at the Federal Way Community Center in which Metro staff laid out their plans for service cuts before letting attendees share their thoughts.

Metro, a part of King County government, provides bus service around the county.

Metro currently has a funding gap of \$75 million annually. In response, Metro has to cut service by 17 percent, deleting 74 routes and reducing operating hours of 107 other routes by June 2014.

Some 645,000 service hours will be cut starting September 2014, said Metro staff member Paul Roybal.

Metro has been facing a variety of economic problems since the recession that started in 2008.

Funding Metro has been using, which was given to them by King County back in 2009, is



Rebecca Starkey/THUNDERWORD

With a 17 percent cut in Metro, many Highline students could be forced to find an alternative route to school and back.

running out.

"We should be increasing our service by 15 percent," said Marty Minkoff, service planning supervisor for Metro. "Reducing services by 17 percent is devastating."

Metro has a process to decide what routes need modification.

"Based on target service level, we decide what needs

reductions," said Metro staff Rachel Verboort.

All routes were prioritized by route productivity and usage. Routes that had the lowest ridership were placed at priority one for reduction or deletion.

Priority two routes would act as Band-Aids for these re-

duced routes, covering more space with reduced hours, Verboort said.

Attendees voiced their concerns.

"People are being underserved, especially in South King County," one attendee said.

"Cuts in service will hurt those least able to deal with them," another attendee said.

"It hurts me when they take away my bus. I want my Metro," an attendee said.

Some people came to Metro with questions.

"What can be done to fix the funding?" an attendee asked.

Another attendee asked, "Where does Metro funding come from?"

Sales tax is the primary funding source, paying for about 54 percent of Metro's income (\$346.8 million); fares pay 26 percent (\$146 million); and grants come with another 9 percent (\$58.7 million). The rest is a collection of capital programs and miscellaneous sources (\$88 million).

"Why can't we locally find a funding solution? Has Metro

considered raising rates?" an attendee said.

However, some people were skeptical that additional funding would help.

"We need to know that money will fix the problem," one attendee said.

Others placed blame on King County's legislators.

"Our legislators have failed us," said Yasmin Elvaradie, member of the Transit Riders Union.

The Transit Riders Union is a group that is fighting to stop or slow the cuts from being implemented.

"We're trying to build up our organization to stop the cuts," she said.

The union was created about two years ago.

"Two years ago they (Metro) were threatening to have cuts," she said. "The reason we're back is because Olympia didn't [help Metro]."

Maps online show what routes will be cut, reduced, and unchanged. These can be viewed at kingcounty.gov/metro/future.

Campus needs more security officers

Highline still needs to take action to cut down the crimes on campus.

Vice President of administrative services Larry Yok, in an interview earlier this quarter, made dismissive comments about the amount of crime on campus.

However, the campus has suffered a steady streak of crimes throughout the quarter, and they have escalated to assaults and armed robberies.

President Jack Bermingham sent out an email last Wednesday noting the concerns that blew up faculty and staff inbox's and stated, "we have taken some intermediate measures to address the criminal activities..."

But what was stated that has been, apparently, put into action is clearly not enough to dissuade perpetrators.

Highline is an 80-acre campus, and it calls for much more than the two or three patrolmen that currently roam throughout the day.

Understandably, these patrolmen have been doing the best they can with their limited resources.

It's not logical to expect them to do everything on their own. They cannot be everywhere at once, therefore, they need reinforcements.

And Highline has been working with the Des Moines Police Department since the beginning, attempting to find the people involved in these crimes.

But we still need more active patrolmen stationed throughout campus.

Where will we get the funding?

That is the big question that Highline administration must find the answer to.

For now though, we can only sit on the edge of our seats anticipating what the upcoming quarters will have in store for the campus.

Be thankful for what matters most in life

Don't be thankful for the superficial, be thankful for the things we take for granted.

These things do not need to be tangible, in fact this is the mistake that many people make on this holiday.

As Highline students we take so much for granted, but we need to remember that we are able to afford a college education in one way or another.

Not everyone can.

Giving thanks for having a house to live in or a car to drive is only a small portion; Thanksgiving is about so much more than that.

This holiday has always been considered the family holiday, it is when as many people as possible come together for one day to feast and give thanks.

We should be thankful that there are people who love us unconditionally.

The people that we consider our family.

This family may not be biological but their love and support is what makes them a true family.

Be thankful that those we call our instructors get up and come to work throughout the week to teach and guide us.

They take time out of their lives to grade our exams and homework, to meet with us outside of class, find the best method to help us succeed and get the most out of the class.

The alumni would not have been able to fulfill their academic ambitions without them.

But most importantly - we would not be here without them.

Retail employees prepare for Thanksgiving blues this year

Thanksgiving has always been one of my favorite holidays.

That is, of course, until I began working in the fabulous life of retail.

Now I have come to loathe the Thanksgiving holiday.

After dinner, I'll be putting on my name badge and preparing to deal with "How much is this item?" - even though its clearly marked - or "I'd like to speak to your manager" - so that they can repeat exactly what I just told them.

Traditionally in the United States, the day following Thanksgiving has become a major shopping day termed Black Friday.

Black Friday is the day following Thanksgiving to kick off the hysteria that is the holiday shopping season.

The term refers to the point at which retailers begin to turn a profit.

Basically, after we spend an entire day being thankful for what we have, we trample over each other to save \$100 on a new TV.

Then we wonder why other countries think Americans are greedy - go figure.

Now, to make this corporate holiday even better, companies have decided to start Black Friday the day before - on Thanksgiving Day.

A day that I am now calling Blue Thursday, because that's how the people feel who have to work it.

In 2012, about 139.4 million people shopped throughout the Black Friday weekend, according to National Retail Federation.

In addition, shoppers spent \$59.1 billion, setting a new record.

This is great because I personally have nothing better to do on Thanksgiving Day than work a cash register and watch customers push and yell at each other over an already overpriced piece of fabric.

Last year, many companies such as Best Buy, Sears, and Macy's opened at 8 p.m. on Thanksgiving Day and this year, many have decided to open even earlier.

Best Buy has announced



Commentary

Erika Wigren

they will be opening at 6 p.m. on Thanksgiving, while select K-mart stores will be opening at 6 a.m. and select Sears stores at 8 a.m.

These brilliant ideas were announced in overly dramatic commercials with families running from their dining room tables to the nearest retailer.

My main issue is the lack of care being shown from these major retail companies towards their associates.

As a former Sears employee, I am appalled that a company would ask its retail associates - what most of these underpaid serves are called by their corporate masters - to work during a traditional family holiday.

And I would bet money that the employees at the Sears Holdings corporate office don't have to spend their holiday working or dealing with grumpy, tired customers.

While working at Sears, I began my shift last year at 8 p.m.

on Thanksgiving Day, after having to leave my family dinner early.

As someone who lives on their own and who only sees their family during the holidays, it was upsetting to leave them to go to work.

Luckily, this year I work at a new retail company, who refuses to open before midnight on Thanksgiving Day for the sake of its employees.

Moreover, I would like to tell consumers who plan on shopping on Black Friday, to not shop before midnight and to not encourage companies like Sears and K-Mart.

I also ask that everyone who will be shopping this Black Friday take into consideration the associates who are being forced to work on their holiday.

Many associates don't have the option of quitting their job just because they do not like the policies or working on the holidays.

In the current market, it is hard to find other jobs that are not in retail and for some; it is the only way they can pay their bills.

Overall my point is to just wait. Shop on the corporate holiday that is Black Friday, not on Thanksgiving Day.

Yes, the sales are great, but so is time with family.

Enjoy your day off with your family, be thankful for what you have, and don't get sucked into the Blue Thursday madness.

- Erika Wigren is the editor in chief of the Thunderword.

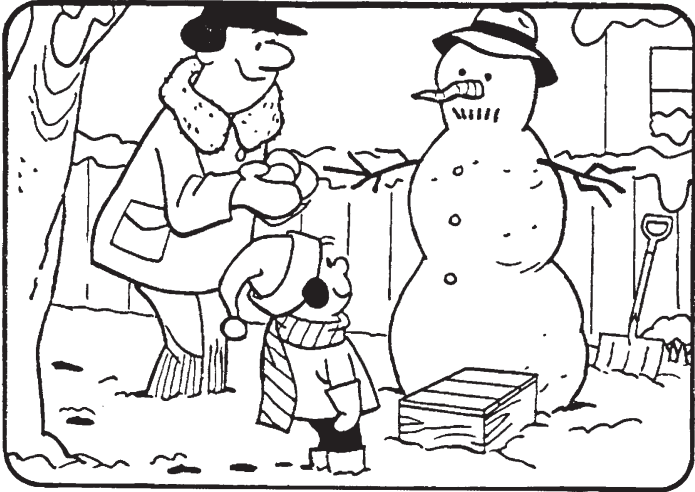
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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY
HENRY BOLTINOFF



CAN YOU TRUST YOUR EYES? There are at least six differences in drawing details between top and bottom panels. How quickly can you find them? Check answers with those below.

DIFFERENCES: 1. Collar is different. 2. Mitten is changed to glove. 3. Tassel is shorter. 4. Hat is missing. 5. Box is missing. 6. Shovel is missing.

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

	5		4					9
7	6			8		1		
		9			6		8	
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2				1		8		
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	3			2			5	

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging
★★★ HOO BOY!

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- U.S. PRESIDENT: Who was the only president to be married in a White House ceremony?
- ANATOMY: How many chromosomes do human beings have?
- TELEVISION: What popular 1970s U.S. sitcom was based on an earlier TV

series in the United Kingdom called *Till Death Us Do Part*?

- LITERATURE: What is the name of the family in John Steinbeck's *The Grapes of Wrath*?
- LANGUAGE: What is a carapace?
- MOVIES: Who played the dead friend in *The Big Chill*, although his scenes were cut from the final movie?

King Crossword

ACROSS

- Distant
- Primary
- vu
- “Rocks”
- Bullets and the like
- Mosque bigwig
- Blood group?
- Tarzan's transport
- Diving bird
- Substantial bodies of work
- Cronkite or Brennan
- Parched
- Beer's cousin
- Cratchit lad
- Medical worker
- Apparel
- Chum
- Bartlett or Bosc
- Don't slouch
- Steal from
- Cacophony
- Pantheon member
- Ping-Pong need
- Parade of a sort
- Not many
- Common rhyme scheme
- Warnings

1	2	3		4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12				13					14			
15				16					17			
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21	22				23		24					
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46	47	48				49		50				
51					52		53				54	55
56					57					58		
59					60					61		

- Nevada city
- & the Gang
- Knock
- Lily type
- Formerly
- Aviate
- (around)
- Split evenly
- Mideast ruler
- “— Eyre”
- Iowa city
- Snip
- Coffee shop vessel
- Moves back and forth
- Jai follower
- Tear
- Ruin the veneer
- Low-temp star
- Take to the seas
- Sea eagle
- Imaginary cause of fear
- Prune
- Camera-person's angle (Abbr.)
- Confound
- 2001 movie, “Donnie —”
- First st.
- Jam ingredients?
- Have — in one's bonnet
- Pealed
- Night light
- Elmer, to Bugs
- Guy's companion
- Agent

DOWN

- Christmas tree, often
- Expert
- Period of imminent danger
- Sell
- I love (Lat.)
- Pointer Sisters' “— Excited”
- Snooped

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Even Exchange

by Donna Pettman

Each numbered row contains two clues and two 6-letter answers. The two answers differ from each other by only one letter, which has already been inserted. For example, if you exchange the A from MASTER for an I, you get MISTER. Do not change the order of the letters.

- | | | | |
|------------------|-------------|------------------|-------------|
| 1. City bigwig | — — Y — — | Estate | — — N — — |
| 2. Law officer | — — — — C — | Showing manners | — — — — T — |
| 3. Thirsty cloth | — E — — — | Dawdle | — A — — — |
| 4. Burst of fire | — — — R — | Fragment of snow | — — — K — |
| 5. Change places | — W — — — | Stoolpigeon | — N — — — |
| 6. Junction | — — — — — R | Trumpet's kin | — — — — — T |
| 7. Love goddess | — — — U — | Flues | — — — T — |
| 8. Oz leader | W — — — — | Gecko or iguana | L — — — — |
| 9. Fall bloomer | — S — — — | Modify | — L — — — |
| 10. Sink bowl | — — — — N | Aromatic herb | — — — — L |

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- INVENTIONS: Who invented the cowboy hat?
- GEOGRAPHY: What is the ancient name for Japan's capital Tokyo?
- COMICS: What is the name of the news correspondent in *Doonesbury*?

- ENTERTAINERS: What famous actor's last words were, I've never felt better?

Answers

- Grover Cleveland
- 46 (23 pairs)
- All in the Family*
- The Joads

- A hard shell covering an animal's back, like a turtle
- Kevin Costner
- John Batterson Stetson
- Edo
- Roland Hedley
- Douglas Fairbanks Sr.

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Burien Actors Theatre photo

Actors debate the meaning of Christmas in a scene from *Coney Island Christmas*, opening Friday in Burien.

‘Coney’ is Christmas with twist

By April Pacheco
Staff Reporter

The Burien Actors Theatre is celebrating a slightly different kind of Christmas this year.

The Burien Actors Theatre is presenting *Coney Island Christmas*, an ironic comedy about a little Jewish girl playing Jesus in a Christmas pageant.

Eric Dickman, the artistic director for the Burien Actors Theatre, said the show will play on two themes, touching and

comedic.

“It starts out with this little Jewish girl complaining and whining about Christmas and how the Jews are left out,” Dickman said.

“We have adults playing kids [and] all kinds of hilarity occurs,” said Dickman.

The Burien Actors Theatre usually gets their scripts from publishing houses but the Burien Actors Theatre got this script directly from the writer, Donald Margulies, a Pulitzer

Prize winner.

Coney Island Christmas was written in 2012 and since then has been played at three theatres, Geffen Theatre, the Bay Area Theatre, and the Burien Actors Theatre.

The Burien Actors Theatre had to get this play straight from the writer because it has not been published yet, said Dickman.

“When it’s published you’re going to see a lot of places playing it,” Dickman said.

Coney Island Christmas will have its debut on Friday, Nov. 29 at 8 p.m. It will be played every Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. through Dec. 22.

The Burien Actors Theatre is located at 14501 4th Ave. SW. Burien.

General Admission is \$20 or \$17 for students and seniors, tickets are available online at www.burienlittletheatre.org or you can email your request to tickets@burienactorstheatre.org



• Join the 5th Avenue Theatre, 1308 5th Avenue, in their production of the classic tale, *Oliver*, by Charles Dickens. The show opens Nov. 29 through Dec. 31. Tickets range from \$20-\$70. For more information or to purchase tickets visit 5thavenue.org/show/Oliver.

• Amelia Earhart Exhibit is at the Museum of Flight, 9404 East Marginal Way S. Seattle, displaying the world’s only 1935 Lockheed Electra airliner like Earhart’s. “In Search of Amelia Earhart” will be on exhibit until April 28, 2014 with free admission to the Museum. Admission is adults \$18, seniors (65+) \$15, youths (5-17) \$10, children (4 and under) free, active military \$15, adult groups \$15, Senior Groups \$13 and Youth Groups \$8. Groups are 10 or more paid visitors in one transaction. For more information visit the Museum of Flight at museumofflight.org.

• Humanities Washington presents a pop-up exhibit called Hope in Hard Times: Washington. This exhibit showcases the triumph of Americans in the 1930s. The exhibit runs until Jan. 4, 2014. It is open noon to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. On Thursdays it is open noon to 8 p.m. The exhibit is at 216 SW 153rd Street. Admission is free, but non-perishable items for the food bank are suggested.

Got art news?
Email tword@highline.edu

Writers asked to share their voices

By Rennie Wallin
Staff Reporter

The Diverse Voices event at Highline is an opportunity for people to share their writing.

“We invite not just students, we invite anyone on campus,” said Rosemary Adang, an English professor and the co-founder and director of Highline’s Writing Center.

“We try to create an open and friendly environment for people to share their writing,” Adang said.

In order for everyone to have an opportunity to share, “we limit them to five minutes each,” she said.

“We want people to know it’s not about judging each others writing,” Adang said.

“We are sharing and enjoying it.”

She said the event helps build communities beyond the classroom.

“We want people to get together as humans who are really equal in terms of having their voices heard,” Adang said.

In order to share your writing, you sign up for a certain time slot. Then when it is your turn, you tell the audience a bit about yourself and share your writing by reading it aloud.

The event occurs regularly the first Thursday of every month, from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.

The next upcoming event is Dec. 5 at the Writing Center, which is in Building 26, room 319.



Adang

Chorale converts Building 7 into cathedral

By Bailey Williams
Staff Reporter

The Highline Chorale will seek to replicate the acoustic atmosphere of old cathedrals when it debuts its fall concert on Thursday, Dec. 5.

The students will enter into Building 7 while singing, said Dr. Glover.

“The processional into the concert space has become somewhat of a tradition,” she said.

“The Chorale will open the concert with two modern pieces set to ancient liturgical texts: *Prelude* and *Ubi Caritas* both composed by Norwegian composer Ola Gjeilo,” said Dr. Sandra Glover, director of the Chorale.

In addition to the voices of Chorale, two piano students will perform pieces, Dr. Glover said.

“Everyone has done a good job with teamwork and collaboration,” she added.

“Finally, the audience will be treated to *Magnificat* by Johann Sebastian Bach,” she said. “This large work features choruses and



Erika Wigren/THUNDERWORD

Highline’s concert Chorale practices for the upcoming concert.

soloists which include members of the Chorale and invited guest soloists.”

Highline Concert Chorale is a two-credit class that is available to take six times.

“Currently there are 12 students in the ensemble. Many more are needed for Winter Quarter [because] we try to perform scenes from Broadway small operettas,” Dr. Glover said.

Auditions are now open for Winter Quarter and “all voices are welcome,” she said.

“We generally always need tenors and basses. We have had very good male singers, but we always need more,” said Dr. Glover.

Students interested in auditioning for Winter Quarter should contact Dr. Glover at sglover@highline.edu or 206-592-4170.

The fall Chorale concert is free and open to the public and there are two opportunities to watch the concert first at 12:15-1 p.m. and again at 7:30 p.m.

Thunderbird men continue fast start

By Jay Doull
Staff Reporter

The Highline's mens basketball team recently wrapped up their two-game road trip with a 105-89 win over Clackamas.

"We did a nice job of playing hard on the road against a good team. We attacked them well offensively and did an outstanding job on the boards," said Head Coach Che Dawson.

The Thunderbirds out-rebounded their opponent by a 46-32 margin. Forward Joseph Stroud collected 13 boards, chipping in 16 points to successfully complete a double-double, his first of the season.

Guard Harold Lee was top scorer for the Thunderbirds with 18 points on 7 for 10 shooting. He was 1 for 2 from behind the 3-point line and was 3 of 3 from the free throw line. He just missed having a double-double with 9 assists, he also grabbed a couple rebounds and had three



Guard Madison McCaffrey

steals.

"We have to continue to play with more discipline. There are little things that we can do offensively and defensively that will make a huge difference for us. We also need to continue to emphasize toughness

in the 50/50 game [referring to rebounding and loose balls]," Coach Dawson said.

"We did a nice job on our defensive and 50/50 keys. We didn't control the 3-point line as well as we needed to early in the game," he said.

Clackamas was 10 of 23 shooting 43.5 percent in the first half and was only 3 of 12 in the second half, shooting only 25 percent from the 3-point line.

Highline used balanced scoring with five guys in double figures to offset the output from Clackamas' Grant Sitton, who scored 34 points on 11 for 22 shooting. He was 6 for 11 from behind the 3-point line, shooting 55 percent and was 6 of 8 from the free throw line.

Highline is now 2-0 to start the season.

Next up for the Thunderbirds will be hosting the Alumni Game on Nov. 30 at 2 p.m. in the Pavilion.



Ben Tucakovic takes a shot in practice this week.

Wrestlers rebound at Spokane tournament

By Ryan Macri
Staff Reporter

Highline's wrestling team had mixed results from their two events over last weekend.

Highline had disappointing results from the dual meet against North Idaho College, losing by the score of 41-4, Saturday, Nov. 23, in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.

Highline bounced back from their disappointing loss by placing fourth in the Spokane Open, Sunday, Nov. 24, with a team score of 109.

Highline's Alejandro Herrera at 125 pounds earned Highline its only points in their dual meet by beating Idaho's Rene Miguel by major decision, 16-7.

Idaho won the other nine weight classes, including the 149-pound weight class by forfeit.

Highline didn't bring anyone to wrestle the 149-pound weight class, and they didn't want to bump someone up a weight class and risk injury, said Brad Luvaas, the assistant coach of the wrestling team.

"[This was the] worst loss Highline has ever suffered in wrestling history," Luvaas said. "Only winning one match was embarrassing."

"I didn't expect to get our butts kicked that bad," said Luvaas. "[Our wrestlers] looked scared."

Highline has another meet

against North Idaho on Dec. 16. "We better [wrestle] better. A loss that bad should never happen," said Luvaas on their future meet against the Cardinals.

In the Spokane Open, the three teams that finished above Highline were Montana State University Northern with a score of 215, North Idaho College with a score of 188, and Oregon State University with a score of 133.

Montana Northern is ranked No. 2 in the National Association

of Intercollegiate Athletics. Idaho is ranked No. 2 in the National Junior College Athletic Association. Oregon State is ranked No. 14 in the NCAA.

Highline heavyweight Ben Tynan placed second, earning Highline 27 points overall.

Tyler Cormier at 197 pounds placed fourth, giving Highline 21 points.

Anton Yates at 184 pounds placed fifth, earning Highline 17 points.

Highline's Andres Terzea

at 125 pounds, Alejandro Herrera's at 133 pounds, Erick Garcia at 141 pounds, John Hedge at 157 pounds, Marquise Brown at 165 pounds, Joshua Terrence at 197 pounds, and heavyweight Edwin Torres all scored points for Highline by winning matches, but did not place.

"Tynan and Terzea wrestled very well," Luvaas said.

"Once Terrence gets in shape and gets in the right weight class he will be tough" said Luvaas. "Cormier needs to hone

his technique a little more and he will be good."

Highline's next action is at the Clackamas Open on Dec. 6. The tournament will take place in Oregon City, Ore.

"If our kids show up to wrestle we will do good, but if they don't we'll get our butts kicked," said Luvaas. "The coaches can give them all the technique and get them in shape, but we can't wrestle for them. They are the ones who have to put the singlet on and wrestle."

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Scoreboard

Women's Basketball		
West Division		
	League	Season
	W L	W L
Green River	0-0	1-0
Highline	0-0	1-0
S. Puget Sound	0-0	1-0
Clark	0-0	2-1
L. Columbia	0-0	1-1
Centralia	0-0	0-2
Grays Harbor	0-0	0-0
Pierce	0-0	0-0
Tacoma	0-0	0-0
North Division		
	W L	W L
Skagit Valley	0-0	1-0
Bellevue	0-0	2-1
Whatcom	0-0	2-1
Peninsula	0-0	2-2
Edmonds	0-0	0-4
Everett	0-0	0-4
Olympic	0-0	0-1
Shoreline	0-0	0-2
East Division		
Blue Mountain	0-0	5-0
Big Bend	0-0	3-0
Columbia Basin	0-0	3-1
Spokane	0-0	3-1
Wenatchee	0-0	2-1
Treasure Valley	0-0	1-2
Walla Walla	0-0	1-2
Yakima Valley	0-0	1-3
South Division		
Clackamas	0-0	2-0
Chemeketa	0-0	3-1
Lane	0-0	3-1
SW Oregon	0-0	3-1
Portland	0-0	2-1
Mt. Hood	0-0	1-2
Umpqua	0-0	0-0

Men's Basketball		
West Division		
	League	Season
	W L	W L
Clark	0-0	2-0
Highline	0-0	2-0
Green River	0-0	1-0
Pierce	0-0	1-0
Centralia	0-0	0-1
Grays Harbor	0-0	0-2
S. Puget Sound	0-0	0-2
L. Columbia	0-0	0-0
Tacoma	0-0	0-0
North Division		
	W L	W L
Everett	0-0	1-0
Whatcom	0-0	1-0
Edmonds	0-0	2-1
Shoreline	0-0	1-1
Bellevue	0-0	0-2
Olympic	0-0	0-3
Peninsula	0-0	0-0
Skagit Valley	0-0	0-0
East Division		
Yakima Valley	0-0	2-0
Big Bend	0-0	1-0
Spokane	0-0	1-0
Treasure Valley	0-0	1-1
Wenatchee Valley	0-0	1-2
Blue Mountain	0-0	0-3
Columbia Basin	0-0	0-1
Walla Walla	0-0	0-0
South Division		
Clackamas	0-0	2-0
Lane	0-0	2-0
Mt. Hood	0-0	1-0
Portland	0-0	1-0
SW Oregon	0-0	2-1
Umpqua	0-0	2-1
Chemeketa	0-0	2-1
Linn-Benton	0-0	1-1

Sports news?
tword@highline.edu

Armstrong aims to assist T-Birds

By Bayonne Beninger
Staff Reporter

Highline freshman point guard Jordan Armstrong wants to move the basketball.

The 5'3" tall Armstrong said she prefers assists and steals to jump shots.

"I'm not a selfish player," Armstrong said. "I'd pass up any points to get an assist."

"I love defense, I love when my opponent pushes me and [they] get the defensive foul," she added.

Armstrong said she hopes to play that role while helping the Lady Thunderbirds reach their goals for this season.

"Ultimately we want to be the NWAACC champions, but we have to give it our all at practice," she said.

Armstrong said she chose Highline because the coaching staff made her feel welcome.

Armstrong has experience in



Jordan Armstrong

pressure situations.

As a senior at Renton, with the score tied and a minute on the clock, she stole the ball, hit the winning layup and still got back in time to play defense as time expired.

The season has just begun, but Armstrong said the team is and will be ready for upcoming games.

The team appears to have talent, coaches and players say, but will have to keep their egos in check to make a run at the playoffs.

As a point guard, Armstrong will be expected to provide some of that leadership.

"My leadership skills I could improve on, I'm not lacking good leadership but it could definitely always improve," said Armstrong.

Armstrong said she believes that leadership and being creative is what makes a good point guard. To be the best point guard, she said, she needs to "get the ball to players who need it and distribute the ball to those who deserve it."

The Thunderbirds beat a team of alumni last Thursday, 65-62.

Armstrong shot at a 67 percent average making two out of her three shots attempted from the field. She attempted and made one three-pointer. She also made both of her freethrow attempts. Altogether Highline shot 54 percent from the freethrow line.

On defense Armstrong stole the ball from the alumni three times.

Armstrong had three offensive rebounds and three defensive rebounds. The T-birds had a total of 49 rebounds altogether.

Armstrong had two assists this game.

Currently Highline is in second place in the NWAACC West Division with a season record of 1-0.

Highline Lady T-birds next play away at Whatcom on Nov. 30 at 6 p.m. and Skagit Valley Dec. 6 at 1 p.m. during the Bulldog Classic in Bellevue.

T-Birds take fifth in volleyball tourney

By Joel Jessen
Staff Reporter

The Highline women finished fifth in the NWAACC tournament to end their season with a league record of 13-1 and a non-league record of 23-12.

The Lady T-Birds went into the tournament with high expectations after finishing strong in the regular season as first place in the Western Division.

The women's first match was against fourth seed of the Eastern Division, Yakima Valley, which they won 25-12, 25-20, 18-25, 25-16.

Highline attacked hard in the first match to win a quick set against the Yaks. The second set saw momentum change slightly as Yakima closed the score gap to only five points by the end.

Highline's loss in the third set was a direct result of numerous handling errors. In addition to that, Yakima was able to capitalize by landing 12 solid kills.

The ladies were able to come back with a vengeance in the fourth set to win the match.

After Thursday's win over Yakima Valley, the Highline women set their sights on Friday's first match against North Division co-champion Bellevue.

The teams battled back and forth for five matches before Highline snatched the victory with a score of 19-25, 25-12, 18-25, 25-12, 15-10.

While the women played hot and cold against the Bulldogs, when they were hot they were on fire. Defense played a major role in the dominating sets that the Lady T-Birds won.

Miranda Grieser, Ash-

ley Barnum, Leone Tanielu, Mikeala Ballou, and Haley Lusher all achieved at least double-digit digs for the match while Chloe Mensching and Jessica Markham defended the net with seven and five blocks respectively.

Highline finished Friday on a slightly unhappy note with a loss to last year's NWAACC champion, Blue Mountain.

The Lady T-Birds came out swinging to win the first set which would unfortunately be the last victory of the night as the final score was 22-25, 25-14, 25-21, 25-13.

"We started off really strong and beat them by a good amount in the first set. ... We thought we could do it, but in the end, we just couldn't," said freshman outside hitter Megan Smith.

Ballou and Tabor led the offense with 25 and 14 kills respectively while Greiser and Lusher did their best to hold the defense up with 26 combined digs.

Even with impressive sta-

tistics for the match, the Blue Mountain Timber Wolves proved to be too much for the T-Birds, and they were pushed down to the loser bracket.

"They [Blue Mountain] won the NWAACC. I think they are the best team in the league," Smith said. "I think we have the same skill potential, but they are just more consistent."

The ladies ended their season Saturday morning with a loss against the Linn-Benton Roadrunners, 25-14, 21-25, 16-14.

The large amount of handling errors combined with relatively few kills contributed to Highline's first set loss, and while they made a good comeback to win the second set, it wasn't enough to win the match.

"This is the first time we played them [Linn-Benton]. They were the only team we haven't played all year so we had nothing to compare them to," said Smith.

After the second loss, Coach Littleman made sure to turn the loss into a learning experience.

"Coach brought us in a circle and made all the sophomores

give the freshman advice, while the freshman had to say one thing we learned from the sophomores," said Smith.

While the season ended with two consecutive losses, the Lady T-Birds have very little to be disappointed about. The team not only came out with an almost undefeated league record, but also multiple individual honors.

Head Coach Chris Littleman won the NWAACC West Division Coach of the Year, while Ballou finished as the division MVP, all-tournament second team, and first team all-stars honoree. Grieser also made the first team all-stars, while Jessica Markham and Danielle Tabor walked away as second team all-stars.

With the 2013 behind them, the Highline's women's volleyball is already looking at what is ahead of them.

"Everyone is already talking about workouts and how to prepare for next year," Smith said. "We're so ready for next year."

Reporter Bayonne Beninger contributed to this story.

Puzzle Answers

King Crossword — Answers

Solution time: 25 mins.

F	A	R		M	A	I	N		D	E	J	A
I	C	E		A	M	M	O		I	M	A	M
R	E	D	C	R	O	S	S		V	I	N	E
		A	U	K		O	E	U	V	R	E	S
W	A	L	T	E	R			D	R	Y		
A	L	E		T	I	M		N				
G	A	R	B		P	A	L		P	E	A	R
S	I	T	U	P		R	O	B		D	I	N
			G	O	D		P	A	D	D	L	E
C	A	R	A	V	A	N		F	E	W		
A	B	A	B		R	E	D		F	L	A	G
R	E	N	O		K	O	O	L		R	A	P
S	E	G	O		O	N	C	E		F	L	Y

Even Exchange Answers

- Mayor, Manor
- Police, Polite
- Terry, Tarry
- Flare, Flake
- Switch, Snitch
- Comer, Comet
- Venus, Vents
- Wizard, Lizard
- Aster, Alter
- Basin, Basil

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

1	5	8	4	3	2	7	6	9
7	6	3	5	8	9	1	4	2
4	2	9	1	7	6	5	8	3
6	8	5	2	9	3	4	7	1
2	9	4	6	1	7	8	3	5
3	1	7	8	4	5	2	9	6
5	7	2	9	6	8	3	1	4
8	4	6	3	5	1	9	2	7
9	3	1	7	2	4	6	5	8

Prof's invention may bring a cash deluge

By Ben Knapp
Staff Reporter

A Highline professor wants to clean up from those who love life outdoors, financially and literally.

James Peet is an online geography professor for Highline and Edmonds Community College.

After previously working as a police officer and federal fraud investigator, Peet has become an inventor.

His invention, the Simple Shower, is an attachment that secures onto the cap of any sized water bottle that can be used as a shower that provides a steady stream of water without squeezing the bottle or adding any extra weight for backpackers.

The idea originated when Peet's eldest child wanted to explore the world after graduating high school by living out of a van for a year.

Peet then decided to research the advantages and disadvantages of living a mobile lifestyle.

After his research, he concluded that bathing was a common inconvenience.

He then chose to research some methods of bathing while outdoors.

Many available options such as the solar shower, spit bath, and garden sprayer were either not efficient or not portable.

Then the idea formed: Why not just put a showerhead on a bottle?

Peet then began the design process.

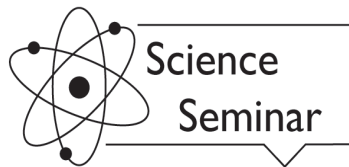
"I wanted to create a product that was sturdy and user friendly," he said.

He then developed adapters that would fit bottles of many sizes to serve as a portable and efficient way to bathe while outdoors in the wilderness.

To create a model of his design, Peet needed to find a CAD/CAM modeler to develop a 3-D image for manufacturers.

After trying to find one through his students and friends, Peet decided to turn to those in the manufacturing field and found a modeler in Oregon who had a 3-D printer.

"Always go to the profession-



als and find somebody that is a specialist in what you are looking for," Peet said.

After his prototype was created, Peet hired a patent attorney to help create a 28-page patent application to secure his product in his own name.

"It is extremely important to patent [a product] to protect it," said Peet.

Next, he needed to create a business plan to determine his market and how much funding he needed to create this idea into a reality.

But in order for this to happen, he needed to raise over \$30,000 in funding.

"You need to know how many will sell on the market. You have to identify all the hidden costs in development and know how much it will cost in the long run," Peet said.

Peet emphasized the importance of a marketing strategy called "guerrilla marketing."

This method helps advertise products through low-cost unconventional strategies that introduces the public to the product while asking them to review it and show their friends who may have an interest in purchasing it.

He also brought his prototype to local retailers to see if his product was in need.

Many retailers were interested in his product, but they wanted him to have a patent before further discussion.

Peet said that the costs of manufacturing are often difficult to analyze as every step requires money to continue.

To identify these costs, he considered the costs for the mold, production (the number of units), assembly, design, and packaging.

Any inventor wants to make a profit with their product, and Peet said he is certain that his product will be rewarding.

Peet said the simplicity of his design helped soften most of the costs of production.

He chose to sell his item for \$10 on the market, describing this price to be low enough to be considered an "impulse purchase."

Next came the decision of where to manufacture the



James Peet's Simple Shower turns any ordinary water bottle into a portable shower.

Simple Shower. His options came down to manufacturing in China or locally.

Peet chose to manufacture his product locally.

"It's important to me to manufacture this locally because I can be there if there's any problems and I'm also helping my local community by keeping jobs here. I believe in profit, not greed," he said.

After this lengthy process, the Simple Shower will be on the market within a week and will be sold on Amazon.com.

Science seminar is finished for the Fall Quarter, but will begin again in Winter Quarter on Friday, Jan. 19.

Entrepreneurs give start-up advice

By Amer Imsic
Staff Reporter

Relationships can help build your business, a panel of startup entrepreneurs said last Friday at Highline.

The speakers included Abdirahman Mohamed, the owner and creative director of Emerald Attire; Charles Gathu, owner and director of Universal Cartridge; and Michael Manderville from Caring Hands transportation.

When you're thinking about what business to start, try to find something to "express yourself, do something you love," said Mohamed.

A tip for those starting a business is "make relationships with people and those relationships will build your business," he said.

Each of them talked about how and why they started their business, the difficulties they had in doing so, and the greatest advice they have for other startup entrepreneurs.

"We find ourselves believing only big companies can help save us money," said Gathu.

A big topic of the presentation was getting involved with the community and using it to your advantage.

"Get involved with other issues in the community," Gathu said.

"Go to community events, pass out business cards but also take business cards too," said Manderville.

They also talked about the difficulties they had in starting their businesses.

"One of the most obvious difficulties is financing," Manderville said, which is a difficulty all of them faced at one point or another.

"It was hard juggling all those priorities in my life," said Mohamed.

A potential resource for entrepreneurs is Highline's StartZone, which Manderville himself attended.

"We [StartZone] work with minorities, immigrants, disadvantaged communities, and mainly women," said Phon Sivongxay, the program manager at StartZone.

"It pretty much revolves around the 3 Ms: money, marketing, and management," she said.

StartZone also offers workshops, business planning and consulting, and mentoring.

To get started "you have to have your business plan and business license," said Sivongxay.

If you have any questions about StartZone or want to get help, you can call 206-592-3388 or visit startzone.highline.edu and click the "Contact Us" link in the left hand side panel.

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All of these classes can be completed online. Find more information on the ADM J website <http://justice.highline.edu/> or by emailing Steve Lettic – slettic@highline.edu

Students bake up a solution

Political science students create a bake sale to raise money for hunger

By April Pacheco
Staff Reporter

The weekend backpack program for the Highline School District is getting a little help from a project called Change for Change.

A group of Highline students are attempting to fundraise money to help the Des Moines Area Food Bank provide backpacks filled with food to students whose families fall at or below the poverty level.

Change for Change raised \$1,200 at their annual bake sale held in the Student Union last year.

Their next bake sale fundraiser will be held in the Student Union on Dec. 2 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

"Children at or below poverty level have worse grades, higher drop-out rates, and lower academic scores, and it continues the cycle of poverty," said Vlad Levchenko, a student presenter.

Levchenko pointed out that this program is important because the people they are feeding are the future generation and future citizens of this community. By donating \$5 you can feed a child for the whole weekend, he said.

"If they don't get enough



Sam Hung/THUNDERWORD

Kathy Allen, left, and Joy Champion explain how important the backpack program is for Madrona Elementary. The weekend backpack program provides food for children of low-income households.

to eat, they are hungry, they can't concentrate, and if they can't concentrate, they can't do homework, they get lower grades," said Levchenko.

Another student who took her time to support this cause was Latonya Brisbane, who spoke on behalf of the Des Moines Area Food Bank.

The way the program works is they have tubs full of packs of food that they then

put into backpacks that are taken home by children for the weekend.

Most of the products come from donations, Brisbane said.

"They [the schools] have these barrels. Last year they did eight to 10 barrels a week, and in each barrel there are 800 bags, that feeds 400 kids per week. Right now they are doing 16 barrels a week," Brisbane said.

The amount of kids using this program has increased and Kathy Allen, the family support coordinator at Madrona Elementary School in SeaTac, has been working closely with these children.

"The needs are substantial," Allen said.

She said that 96 percent of the students at Madrona are on free and reduced price lunch.

The program helps 137 fami-

lies and 380 kids. It essentially helps get food from the food bank to families since there is a lack of transportation for these families, said Allen.

Allen recalls the story of one child on the program that made her realize how important this program is.

"There was this one little boy who I noticed hadn't been to school for a couple days, suddenly we get a call from some apartments saying there is a little boy here and he's hurt and the mother is no where to be found," Allen said.

It was then she found out that the mother had left her children alone for three days to be with her boyfriend who had been involved in a shooting, the two children, second and third graders, had survived off of the food backpacks given to them, said Allen.

"Our kids would be hungry if we didn't have this program," said Allen.

Joy Champion, the behavioral intervention coach at Madrona Elementary spoke about the related summer food program for these families as well.

"We serve 900 to 1,200 lunches a day in the summer. Summer meals would not be possible without the volunteers that come in," Champion said.

To learn more about how to volunteer in the summer meals program you can e-mail the Des Moines Area Food Bank at dmafb@bigplanet.com or call them at 206-878-2660.

'Tis the season for helping those in need

I grew up in a third world country called Peru, located in the western coast of South America.

Though I was fortunate to have a financially stable home thanks to my immigrant father, who sent money from America on a monthly basis, I have witnessed my share of poverty and desperation.

I saw dirty faces and scrawny bodies on toddlers living in squalor and panhandling for change. Vacant eyes marked the wrinkled faces of elders sitting outside the cathedral in the Trujillo city square. Squeezes splashed dirty soap water across windshields at the hand of twenty-something-year-old men trying to earn a dime. You get the picture.

Unlike in developed nations, unemployment was not just a growing fear but an everyday reality. Thus, the idea of going after the American Dream grew on me like ivy, spreading to my lungs and sprouting through my fingernails.



Commentary

Cristina Acuna

I yearned to live in the land of the free, not only to join my father and reunite my family, but also to escape the toxic fumes of poverty that caused despair to whomever was unfortunate to inhale them. Luckily, my prayers were answered when a Green Card opened the

door to a promising future for my family and I.

This is why I find myself staggered by the fact that the air I've been breathing hungrily into my lungs since I stepped off the plane at SeaTac bears an ugly resemblance to the one that used to sear my nostrils as a child.

In recent years, the poisonous gas of poverty has spread across the world with the force of a tsunami, bathing us in its infectious disease. Our backyard is fogged by it, and our children are choking on it.

The Census has spoken an unfortunate truth about Southwest King County, one that resonates among us all. With over 26 percent of SeaTac under poverty and a likely amount in the surrounding areas, children aren't getting enough to eat.

Minimum wage leaves parents saddled with bills and begging for overtime. Underprivileged kids eat twice at school and get no more nourishment

for the rest of the day. Their bellies groan for sustenance during class, and their languid brains can't focus on much else.

We call them "The Future of America," yet how can we expect them to have a bright future when they live such a bleak present?

Now, poverty is a problem we've tried to tackle since the concept of money as a means for survival was invented. I certainly do not have a solution to it, only a plea.

The world is too big and my voice is too soft to reach everyone's ears. But since I have your attention, I beg you to share your blessings this holiday season. Donate to a worthy cause.

The Weekend Backpack Program run by the Des Moines Area Food Bank with the support of local Rotary clubs provides children with backpacks full of food.

A mere \$5 can feed a child for an entire weekend. If you can't donate money, new backpacks

are needed to continue this valiant effort. Deliver them to the participating schools (Madrona, Bow Lake, Parkside, and Midway Elementary) as your grain of salt towards the greater good.

Checks can be mailed to PO Box 98788 Des Moines, WA 98198 and online at www.myfoodbank.org/backpackprogram.

Furthermore, material objects are not all that can be donated. Time and spirit are always a constant necessity.

"Be the change that you wish to see in the world," said Ghandi and the million bumper stickers I've seen on the freeway.

Such a small turnout for such an over quoted phrase. Take heed to these words, people!

If you have something to be grateful for this Thanksgiving, then you definitely have something to give back.

I, for one, am done holding my breath till my face turns purple. I'm opening a window.

Cristina Acuna is a reporter for the Thunderword.

Black Friday

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the holiday but doesn't mind that others are.

"It is what it is. Most companies pay extra for working on the holidays, so they're making money," said Field.

"Most of the time companies tell their employees that they will be working on Black Friday or holidays, so it's the workers' responsibility. But workers should be worked equally," said another student who asked to be anonymous.

Student Felicia Bartenetti doesn't see it as a big deal as long as the company schedules enough people to work.

"I think companies should over staff their employees so their employees won't be stressed," Bartenetti said.

Bartenetti said she is unhappy because she will probably have to work on those days, but she knows her paycheck will look nice.

"They don't have a choice it's part of having the job," Toby Ibrahim said.

Student Brenton McBride said he thinks that it is fair that people work on Thanksgiving because in the end they're still getting paid.

"It's a job and you'll going to get paid at the end of the day, so make your money," McBride said.

McBride said that he does not feel bad for people who have to work on Thanksgiving or Black Friday because his mother works in retail and she knows that she will get paid double.

"I think it's fine [for people to work on Thanksgiving] as long as you get double pay and they close early, but for Black Friday I think that they should get time and half for grave yard



Gridpop photo

Shoppers storm into a Target at midnight on last year's Black Friday. This year, Target said it will be opening select stores at 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. Thursday.

shifts," Michaela Pannoni said.

One student who wanted to be anonymous said that if employees don't want to work on Thursday then "they can just quit their job."

"They [retail stores] are using the holiday as a business strategy. It's good for the economy and ultimately providing work [for employees]. It has been something that they most likely have been told since being hired, so it is not a big deal. However, if they celebrate it, it should be a choice for them to be able to take off," said Mohammad Amini.

Joell Leggings said that that is it unfair for employees to work on Thanksgiving Day, but that they still need to go to work.

"I think that will be better for those that work later at night. It lets everyone get a chance to shop," said an anonymous student.

Student Natalie Campbell said, "If they're not working, we can't purchase." Campbell also said that she was going to be shopping both days.

"I don't really see why that would be a problem," student Rami Barbour said.

However, Barbour said he will only be shopping on Friday because he will be spending Thanksgiving Day with his family.

Some students said that they think it is unfair for employees to be forced to work on the holiday.

"I don't think it's fair making them work on Thanksgiving. They should be able to choose if they want to work that day," said student Spencer Boyd.

In addition, Boyd said he will only be shopping on Black Friday.

Chase Stormer said that he will be working Black Friday this year.

"Everyone should have the chance to spend time with their family on Thanksgiving Day," Stormer said. "The only reason they are opening is because shoppers want to shop which is really sad. Thanksgiving has nothing to do with consumer goods, it's

a day to be thankful with what you have," said student Marco Meza.

Other students said that they think Thanksgiving is a family holiday and that retail employees should not be forced to work.

"I dislike it because of the fact that this day [Thanksgiving] is a day of bonding with your family and having a big meal. It should be a voluntary workday," said David Reader.

Malilelei Faletogo said it's unfair and workers should be able to schedule that day off.

"I think it's unfair if the workers don't have an option or can schedule Thanksgiving off. But unfortunately I will be left home alone because most of my family have to work on Thanksgiving," Faletogo said.

Quy Nguyen said she won't be shopping at all this upcoming weekend because she thinks people get too crazy.

"Also, its not the time to be working or shopping; it's time to be thankful for what you already have," Nguyen said. "That's insane, it's a lot of work and it's very intense to work both days," said student Marta Frost.

Lauren Roux said she will not be shopping either because she doesn't like the crowds and she doesn't agree with working on the holidays.

"It's unfair. If it's not a choice, a company should not be able to make people work on holidays," Roux said.

Another student said they feel it is unfair for those who have families in different states because its eliminates the possibility of traveling to see them.

"I don't like it because most of the workers should be spending most of their time with their families and by making them work on Thanksgiving shows me how greedy the companies really are," Kullberg said.

Staff reporters Maria Tejada, Sam Hong, Silvestre Aguilar, Shakina Baker, and Erika Wigren contributed to this story.

Holiday

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The National Retail Federation claims that 129 million consumers shopped online on Cyber Monday in 2012.

They anticipate a growth of between 13 percent and 15 percent in online shoppers during the whole holiday season, leading to a total of \$82 billion spent.

Local Saturday is a fairly new holiday event that happens the first Saturday after Thanksgiving.

It isn't a day for big savings but encourages consumers to buy locally from small businesses within their community.

"It's [Local Saturday] about the long-term business relationships [and] contributing to the health of the community," said Dr. James Peyton, an economics professor at Highline.

The good thing about Local Saturday is that "they may be able to offer better customer service and more personalized service," he said.

The challenge it faces is the question of, "can you get what you want [and] are the stores open for a time that's convenient for you?" he said.

Local Saturday doesn't seem to be having a positive effect on businesses yet.

"I have never experienced an increase in sales, and I am usually closed for the Thanksgiving holiday weekend because of the lack of shoppers," said Cora Morrison, owner of Des Moines Florist.

She said that she doesn't think enough people know about Local Saturday and that her business would be interested in a buy-local promotion.

The impact of these shopping days can't be denied.

"A minimum of 40 percent

of retail revenue comes within five weeks near the holiday period," said Patricia Mullen, CEO of the Federal Way Chamber of Commerce. "Most businesses that are in a consumer demographic prepare all year for the season."

The National Retail Federation estimates that seasonal employment will mean between 720,000 and 780,000 retail jobs just for the holidays.

Staff reporter Ryan Johnston contributed to this story.

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Balkenende brews up a witches' tale

By Eric K. Helgeson
Staff Reporter

A Highline historian led a group of people to cast a spell last week.

Dr. Teri Belkenende, a full-time historian at Highline and frequent presenter at the History Seminar, talked about the Witch Hunts in Europe that lasted from 1450 to 1700.

She had previously talked about this subject before in 2009 and has since updated her presentation.

Belkenende said the various factors that led to the Witch Craze were intellectual and cultural changes as well legal and social factors.

During the early Medieval Ages, the Church did not officially believe in witches and witchcraft, because doing so was considered to be an acknowledgement of pagan belief and might have caused people to go back to paganism.

"The beginning of the witch hunt



phenomenon was gradual and seems to have been a response to the growth of heretical movements like the Cathars, Balkenende said.

"The ideas that were labeled as witchcraft in many cases were remnants of earlier pagan belief, but it was really only in the mid-15th century or so that these kinds of behaviors were beginning to be seen as dangerous."

By the 14th century, a witch was someone who could perform magical acts intended to harm people or property; practice "low" magic rather than "high" magic; and made a pact with the Devil.



Teri Belkenende

The witch trials were initially tried in ecclesiastical court until about 1550, when secular courts took over.

The legal tradition in the Middle Ages was mostly a revival of Roman law. Criminal actions were initiated and prosecuted by private persons, with

penalties for false accusations.

Later on, torture became widely used to extract confessions and accusers were no longer liable for their accusations.

Dr. Belkenende said the people who were accused of witchcraft tended to be poor, single, older women, although there were a few examples of male witches, such as Johannes Junius.

The high point of the trials was during the Wars of Religion between the Protestant and Catholic faiths.

This also includes the Spanish Inquisition.

The trials slowly began to decline around the mid-17th century and fully ended prior to the American Revolution.

This was the last History Seminar of the Fall Quarter and the History Seminars will begin again on the second Wednesday of Winter Quarter.

Foster

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you, and if there is anything else we can do for you we will try, but we are no longer responsible for you," Hale said. "Those were the words spoken to me as we drove to the college dorm where I was dropped off at the entrance."

Hale said that that was the last contact he had with his foster parents.

"That was the last contact I had as I failed to successfully complete my first year of college," Hale said. "After a terrible freshmen year, I was drafted and served two years in the Army."

After the Army, Hale said he began working in real estate and coaching youth sports.

"I saw the value of structured and supportive programs for young people," Hale said. "After an illness and surgery I ended up at Highline through the Veterans Administration."

Hale said he focused on a degree in chemical dependency counseling so that he could help "aging-out" foster kids.

"Aging-out" is the term used for when a foster child turns 18 or graduates from high school, Hale said.

"During my time at Highline, I expanded my vision to chemical dependency counseling to provide a supportive and structured program for aging-out foster children," Hale said. "I had seen the impact of drugs and alcohol on friends and families and at risk kids."

In effect, the lack of guidance and support during college for a former foster child results in the feeling of helplessness and they are more likely to fail in school, Hale said.

"Research and common sense shows that more foster

children would do better with a structured program that educates, encourages, and supports the foster child to achieve vocational, technical, or academic after high school," Hale said.

This personal experience has motivated Hale to try to help other former foster children with the same situation and who are now Highline students.

"I want to start a program that helps students with this same experience. I want to get a property close to Highline so that kids can have a structure and support system and make it through college with less stress," Hale said. "This doesn't mean acting like a new foster parents, but rather giving them structure, support and encouragement."

Hale is in the process of creating a 501c for this. A 501c is a tax-exempt nonprofit organization.

"There are certain foster children who need continued support, encouragement, and structure after high school to be successful. I know that I was

one of those kids," Hale aid.

Hale said that he is still working to create this program and develop a team.

Currently, Hale is looking for Highline students to help him with what he is calling Foster Outreach.

"I want people who have a heart for helping, and a passion. I am looking for former foster kids attending school to share their story, and to also reach out to continue their training or education," Hale said.

"I want former foster chil-

dren to have the support and encouragement they need to succeed in college," he said.

Foster children and others who are interested in getting involved can reach Hale at synergysuccessteam@live.com or by phone at 206-730-5904.



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